

Dear Parent/Guardian:

This spring, your child will take the Smarter Balanced tests in math and/or English language arts. Students enrolled in Biology will also take the end-of-course (EOC) exam in Biology. These tests are used for state and federal accountability, as well as for assessment graduation requirements.

This is the third year our state will administer the Smarter Balanced tests. The results from these tests will give a more accurate picture of whether students are on track to be ready for college or career.

Knowing your child's achievement level (1 through 4) will help him or her choose which courses to take in 12th grade to prepare for college and career success. Our school will have access to the tests scores a few weeks after students complete the tests.

Students who score a 3 or 4 on the Smarter Balanced tests will be able to move directly into credit-bearing college-level courses (levels 100 and above) upon enrollment at more than 220 colleges, universities, and community and technical colleges in eight states, including Washington. *This means they can bypass traditional placement tests students typically take when they enroll in college and avoid costly remedial courses.*

Students who score a 1 or 2 will have the opportunity to continue working toward college and career readiness. We will work with your child to make sure his or her course choices fit their goals for life.

Most students will take the tests online. Our school is scheduled to take the tests on the following dates:

**Smarter Balanced**

**April 20<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>: English Language Arts**

**May 18<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>: Math**

*Students will test on both days of each test, the time of day will be based on their last name*

**June 6<sup>th</sup>: Biology EOC Exam**

For more information about the tests and to try out an online practice test yourself, visit [www.k12.wa.us/smarter](http://www.k12.wa.us/smarter).

Please call or email Josh Johnson if you have questions about state testing.

Thank you for continuing to work with us to make sure your child is successful. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to better support your child. We want your child to leave us with a solid foundation of skills and a future full of opportunities.

Sincerely,

Josh Johnson  
Assistant Principal

<b>TESTS REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION (as of February 13, 2017)</b>		
<b>Class of</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Test</b>
<b>2017 &amp; 2018</b>	ELA	Smarter Balanced ELA test (scale score of 2548 or higher)
	Math	<b>Choose 1:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Algebra 1/Integrated Math 1 EOC</li><li>• Geometry/Integrated Math 2 EOC</li><li>• Smarter Balanced math test (scale score of 2595 or higher)</li></ul>
	Science	Biology EOC
<b>2019 &amp; beyond</b>	ELA	Smarter Balanced ELA test (cut score to be determined by State Board of Education)
	Math	Smarter Balanced math test (cut score to be determined by State Board of Education)
	Science	Biology EOC

**ATTENTION CLASSES OF 2016 THROUGH 2018:** Students who meet or exceed the college- and career-ready threshold scores (ELA: 2583, math: 2628) on the Smarter Balanced tests as a 10th grader will not have to take those tests in 11th grade.